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EXAMINER

MARTIN, NICHOLAS A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/923,415

Applicant(s)

MOREAU ET AL.

Examiner

Nicholas Martin

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/8/2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/19/01, 12/18/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Claims 1-35 are presented for examination.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 2 is objected to because of a typographical error. On page 2, of amended claims sheet, "characterized" is spelled incorrectly. Subsequent typographical errors are repeated throughout the remainder of the claims and require correction.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bowman-Amuah, Michel K. (hereinafter Bowman-Amuah), US 6,640,244.

5. As per claim 1, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method for the transmission of the pages of an electronic document (100) by a client station (10, 12, 13) to a server station (11), connected by a communication network (1), with a view to the processing of the document by a processing peripheral (14, 20-22), the method including the prior steps of generating (S401) orders corresponding to the pages of the said electronic document to be processed, storing (S401) the said orders grouped by page of the document, and sending (S403) a message requesting processing of the document to the server station, the method comprising the steps of:

(A) receiving (S405) a request message, referred to as a "page request", sent by the server station, the said page request including information identifying a page of the document (Col. 2, lines 27-35; Col. 110, lines 11-15; lines 43-47; Col. 234, lines 17-29);

(B) translating (S407) in a computer communication language orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request (Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 209, lines 35-42);

(C) sending (S409) to the server station a response message containing the translated orders corresponding to the identified page request (Col. 107, lines 28-34; Col. 213, lines 56-58; Col. 243, lines 51-55).

6. As per claim 2, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1, characterized in that steps (A), (B) and (C) are recommenced until all the pages of the document have been send (S411) (Col. 65, lines 2-10; lines 25-27).

7. As per claim 3, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the said document processing request message includes an

electronic address indicative of the storage location of the orders corresponding to the first page of the document to be processed (Col. 84, lines 34-56; Col. 90, lines 30-40).

8. As per claim 4, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 3, characterized in that it includes, before the step of sending the said processing request message, a step of associating, with each of the pages of the document, an electronic address indicative of the storage location of the orders corresponding to the page:

wherein the response message, containing the translated orders of a page, also includes the storage electronic address of the orders corresponding to the following page to be processed of the document (Col. 84, lines 34-56; Col. 90, lines 30-40); and

wherein the information identifying a page of the document, contained in said page request received from the server station, is the storage electronic address of the orders corresponding to a page of the document (Col. 2, lines 27-35; Col. 53, lines 14-18; Col. 94, lines 46-51; Col. 110, lines 11-15; lines 43-47; Col. 234, lines 17-29; Col. 239, lines 22-25).

9. As per claim 5, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 3, wherein the request includes information identifying a processing peripheral (Col. 46, lines 22-25; Col. 48, lines 28-35).

10. As per claim 6, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 5, wherein the information identifying a peripheral is a network address identifying a peripheral on the network (Col. 10, lines 25-34; Col. 46, lines 22-25; Col. 48, lines 28-35).

11. As per claim 7, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein orders corresponding to each page of the document to be processed are stored in a computer file (Col. 55, lines 59-67; Col. 56, lines 11-15).

12. As per claim 9, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method of processing an electronic document in a server station (11), connected via a communication network (1) to at least one client station (10, 12, 13), and responsible for the management of at least one electronic document processing peripheral (14, 20-22), the method comprising the steps of:

(D) receiving (S601, S607) a message coming from a client station, said message including information identifying a page to be processed of an electronic document (Col. 32, lines 60-63; Col. 83, lines 44-49, lines 55-59; Col. 84, lines 6-10);

(E) sending a request message (S605), referred to as a page request, to the client station, said page request including said page identification information, and aimed at obtaining from the client station the processing orders corresponding to the page identified by the identification information (Col. 2, lines 27-35; Col. 107, lines 28-34; Col. 110, lines 11-15; lines 43-47; Col. 213, lines 56-58; Col. 234, lines 17-29; Col. 243, lines 51-55).

(F) receiving (S607) a response message from the client station, said response message containing the orders corresponding to the identified page translated into a computer communication language (Col. 32, lines 60-63; Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 83, lines 44-49, lines 55-59; Col. 84, lines 6-10; Col. 209, lines 35-42).

13. As per claim 10, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 9, characterized in that it includes a prior step of receiving (S601) a processing request message coming from the client station, said processing request message including information identifying a processing peripheral and information identifying a first page to be processed of the document; and in that said response message received (S607) from the client station also includes information identifying a following page to be processed of the document (Col. 10, lines 25-34; Col. 32, lines 60-63; Col. 46, lines 22-25; Col. 48, lines 28-35; Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 83, lines 44-49, lines 55-59; Col. 84, lines 6-10; Col. 209, lines 35-42).

14. As per claim 11, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

(G) converting (S61 1) the orders received, from the computer communication language to a data format appropriate to the processing of said orders by the processing peripheral identified by said peripheral identification information (Col. 10, lines 25-34; Col. 46, lines 22-25; Col. 48, lines 28-35; Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 209, lines 35-42);

(H) processing (S613) said orders converted by the identified peripheral (Col. 1, lines 63-67; Col. 2, lines 1-2; Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 209, lines 35-42).

15. As per claim 12, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 11, wherein said steps (E) to (H) are recommenced until all the pages of the document have been processed (Col. 65, lines 2-10; lines 25-27).

16. As per claim 13, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 12, wherein the information identifying a page to be processed of the electronic document is an electronic address indicative of the storage location of the orders corresponding to that page (Col. 84, lines 34-56; Col. 90, lines 30-40).

17. As per claim 14, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the step (H) of processing the said orders includes a step of generating the processing codes, from said converted orders, by a processing driver associated with said processing peripheral; and a step of sending said codes to said processing peripheral (Col. 1, lines 63-67; Col. 2, lines 1-2; Col. 10, lines 25-34; Col. 46, lines 22-25; Col. 48, lines 28-35; Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 58, lines 23-44; Col. 209, lines 35-42).

18. As per claim 16, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1 or 9, wherein the communication network is a network of the Internet type (Col. 15, lines 11-15).

19. As per claim 17, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1 or 9, wherein the client station and server station communicate using a communication protocol of the "hypertext transfer protocol" (HTTP) type (Col. 1, lines 57-63; Col. 15, lines 11-17).

20. As per claim 18, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 17, wherein the processing request message, said response message containing the translated orders and said page request are HTTP messages including a supplementary field containing the electronic address corresponding to a page to be



processed of the document (Col. 52, lines 7-10; lines 24-27; Col. 68, lines 25-41; Col. 209, lines 35-42; Col. 229, lines 1-4, lines 14-19).

21. As per claim 19, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according claim 1 or 9, wherein the computer communication language is a langue of the hypertext markup language type (Col. 1, lines 63-67).

22. As per claim 20, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 19, wherein the communication language is the XML language (Col. 41, lines 16-21).

23. As per claim 21, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1 or 9, wherein the electronic address at which the orders corresponding to a page of the electronic document are stored is an address of the URL type (Col. 82, lines 3-6).

24. As per claim 22, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method according to claim 1 or 9, wherein the processing of a document consists of a printing of the document (Col. 54, lines 41-45).

25. Claim 23 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 1 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

26. Claim 24 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 4 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

27. As per claim 25, Bowman-Amuah teaches a device according to claim 24, wherein said association means (207, 209) include:

- an association table (207) containing, for each page of said document, an electronic address indicative of the storage location of the orders corresponding to the page in question (Col. 62, lines 55-67); and

- means (209) of updating the association table according to the document to be processed and the pages of said document already processed (Col. 51, lines 53-56).

28. Claim 26 does not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1 and 2 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

29. Claim 27 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 9 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

30. Claim 28 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 10 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

31. Claim 29 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 11 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

32. Claim 30 does not teach or define any new limitations above claims 14 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

33. Claim 31 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 27 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

34. Claim 32 does not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1 and 9 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

35. Claim 33 does not teach or define any new limitations above claims 23-26 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

36. Claim 34 does not teach or define any new limitations above claims 27-31 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

37. Claim 35 does not teach or define any new limitations above claims 33-34 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

38. Claims 8 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Bowman-Amuah, in view of Hamlet et al. (hereinafter Hamlet), US 6,606,103.

39. As per claim 8, Bowman-Amuah does not explicitly teach a method according to claim 7, characterized in that the computer file for storing the orders is a file of the EMF type.

40. Hamlet teaches a method characterized in that the computer file for storing the orders is a file of the EMF type (Col. 1, line 67; Col. 2, lines 1-6; Col. 4, lines 10-15).

41. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hamlet and Bowman-Amuah because they both deal with communication of content over a network. Furthermore, the teaching of Hamlet to allow a method characterized in that the computer file for storing the orders is a file of the EMF type would improve the functionality and compatibility of Bowman-Amuah's system by including image files to the electronic content to be processed over a communication network.

42. Claim 15 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 8 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to "Method And Device For Processing An Electronic Document In A Communication Network".

- |      |                 |                   |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|
| i.   | US 2002/0013854 | Eggleston et al.  |
| ii.  | US 2002/0124100 | Adams, Jeffrey B. |
| iii. | US 2002/0032725 | Araujo et al.     |

A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action is set to expire in THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Martin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3970. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3970.

Art Unit: 2154

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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January 28, 2005

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